

Top Secret

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BRIEFS AND COMMENTS

SOUTHEAST ASIA: ASEAN Foreign Ministers' Meeting

The communique issued by the Foreign Ministers of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations after their meeting Friday in Kuala Lumpur attempted to convince Vietnam that ASEAN is united in opposing its actions in Kampuchea while agreeing to open a dialogue with the Vietnamese to seek a solution.

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Malaysian Foreign Minister Rithauddeen was delegated to visit Hanoi to discuss resolution of the Kampuchean situation, which the Foreign Ministers noted jeopardizes the stability of the entire region. The ministers supported Thailand's request for a UN team to visit the Thai-Kampuchean border and called for implementation of the UN resolution to convene an international conference on Kampuchea. The communique acknowledged that the ASEAN states have always had reservations about Kampuchean leader Pol Pot's regime, but said that withdrawing recognition of his government would be tantamount to approving foreign military intervention.

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TAKE 1--ASEAN STATEMENT

BANGKOK RADIO CARRIES 14 DEC STATEMENT BY ASEAN FOREIGN MINISTERS

BA151104 BANGKOK DOMESTIC SERVICE IN THAI 0530 GMT 15 DEC 79 BK

1 "APPARENT TEXT" OF 14 DECEMBER JOINT STATEMENT BY ASEAN FOREIGN MINISTERS FOLLOWING MEETING IN KUALA LUMPUR--READ BY ANNOUNCER)

(TEXT) ASEAN'S JOINT STATEMENT:

1. ASEAN FOREIGN MINISTERS HELD AN INFORMAL MEETING KUALA LUMPUR ON 14 DECEMBER 1979 AND EXCHANGED VIEWS ON THE SITUATION IN KAMPUCHEA AND THE THAI-KAMPUCHEAN BORDER AREAS AS WELL AS CONSIDERED ASEAN'S EFFORTS TO HELP WITH THE IMPLEMENTATION OF UNGENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION NO. 43/22 DATED 14 NOVEMBER 1979 ON THE SITUATION IN KAMPUCHEA. THEY EXCHANGED VIEWS ON ASEAN COOPERATION AND OTHER ISSUES OF COMMON CONCERN INCLUDING THE PROBLEMS OF INDOCHINESE REFUGEES AND DISPLACED PERSONS.

2. ASEAN FOREIGN MINISTERS EXPRESSED THEIR GRAVE CONCERN OVER THE ALARMING SERIOUSNESS OF THE FIGHTING IN KAMPUCHEA, PARTICULARLY THE SITUATION ALONG THE THAI-KAMPUCHEAN BORDER, AS INDICATED BY INCREASING ARMED INCURSIONS OF FOREIGN FORCES AND CROSS-BORDER SHELLINGS INTO THAI TERRITORY. THIS HAS HEIGHTENED TENSION, WITH THE POSSIBILITY OF ESCALATION AND WIDENING OF THE AREA OF THE FIGHTING ALONG THE THAI-KAMPUCHEAN BORDER, CAUSED THE INFLOX OF 120,000 KAMPUCHEAN INTO THAILAND WHILE OTHER 600,000 ARE PASSING ALONG THE BORDER WAITING TO ENTER THAI TERRITORY AND RESULTED IN THE DISPLACEMENT OF ABOUT 80,000 THAI PEOPLE FROM THEIR HOMES ALONG THE BORDER.

ASEAN FOREIGN MINISTERS AGREED THAT THE SITUATION ALONG THE THAI-KAMPUCHEAN BORDER GRAVELY JEOPARDIZES THE PEACE, SECURITY AND STABILITY OF THE WHOLE SOUTHEAST ASIAN REGION.

3. ASEAN FOREIGN MINISTERS CALLED FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF APPROPRIATE AND EFFECTIVE MEASURES TO REDUCE TENSION AND TO PREVENT INCURSIONS AND EXPANSION OF THE AREA OF FIGHTING WHICH MAY OCCUR IN THE FUTURE. AN INCREASE IN INTERNATIONAL PRESENCE IN THE AREA WILL BE BENEFICIAL TO THE SITUATION ALONG THE BORDER. ASEAN FOREIGN MINISTERS AGREED TO SUPPORT THAILAND'S REQUEST TO THE UNITED NATIONS SECRETARY GENERAL TO SEND A DELEGATION TO THAILAND AND INCREASE THE NUMBER OF UNITED NATIONS RELIEF PERSONNEL ALONG THE THAI SIDE OF THE BORDER WITH KAMPUCHEA.

4. ASEAN FOREIGN MINISTERS FULLY SUPPORTED THE UNITED NATIONS SECRETARY GENERAL AND FOR RELEASE 2005/06/09 : CIA-RDP81B00401R001400050006-9 TO GIVE URGENT RELIEF ASSISTANCE TO ALL THE NEEDY PEOPLE WHO ARE AFFECTED BY THE FIGHTING IN KAMPUCHEA. ASEAN FOREIGN MINISTERS EXPRESSED THEIR CONCERN OVER A LARGE NUMBER OF REPORTS THAT RELIEF HAD NOT REACHED THE HANDS OF THE RECIPIENTS AT WHICH IT WAS AIMED. ASEAN FOREIGN MINISTERS CALLED UPON THE UNITED NATIONS SECRETARY GENERAL TO URGENTLY FIND EFFECTIVE WAYS TO DISTRIBUTE THE RELIEF SUPPLIES TO ALL OF THE NEEDY KAMPUCHEAN PEOPLE WITHOUT DISCRIMINATION AND URGED ALL PARTIES CONCERNED TO FULLY COOPERATE WITH EACH OTHER TO ACHIEVE THIS GOAL.

5. ASEAN FOREIGN MINISTERS REAFFIRMED THE ASEAN JOINT STATEMENT ISSUED IN BANGKOK ON 12 JANUARY 1979, AGREED TO WORK ACTIVELY WITH THE UNITED NATIONS SECRETARY GENERAL TO SEEK A SETTLEMENT OF THE CONFLICT IN KAMPUCHEA AND EMPHASIZED FULL SUPPORT FOR THE UNITED NATIONS RESOLUTION ON KAMPUCHEA WHICH REGULATES A WIDE FRAME FOR THE SOLUTION TO THE KAMPUCHEAN PROBLEM AND, PARTICULARLY, CALLS FOR THE END OF THE FIGHTING AND POLITICAL SETTLEMENT OF THE CONFLICT ON THE BASIS OF WITHDRAWAL OF FOREIGN FORCES FROM KAMPUCHEA, SELF-DETERMINATION BY THE KAMPUCHEAN PEOPLE AND NONINTERFERENCE IN INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF STATES IN SOUTHEAST ASIA.

6. ASEAN FOREIGN MINISTERS ALSO DECIDED TO INCREASE THEIR EFFORTS TO ACHIEVE A PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT IN THE CONFLICT IN KAMPUCHEA WHICH WILL RESTORE SOVEREIGNTY, TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY AND FREEDOM IN KAMPUCHEA. TO ACHIEVE THIS, ASEAN FOREIGN MINISTERS, THEREFORE, CALLED UPON THE UNITED NATIONS SECRETARY GENERAL TO TAKE CONCRETE STEPS TOWARD THE EARLY IMPLEMENTATION OF THE UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION INCLUDING THE CONVENING OF AN INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON KAMPUCHEA.

7. ASEAN FOREIGN MINISTERS ALSO AGREED TO CONTINUE CONSULTATIONS WITH CONCERNED COUNTRIES TOWARD ACHIEVING A POLITICAL SOLUTION OF THE CONFLICT IN KAMPUCHEA. IN THIS CONNECTION, THEY REQUESTED THAT THE FOREIGN MINISTER OF MALAYSIA, IN HIS CAPACITY AS CHAIRMAN OF THE ASEAN STANDING COMMITTEE, VISIT HANOI AND INDICATE THAT ASEAN IS PREPARED TO HAVE DIALOG WITH THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM.

(MORE)

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TAKE 2 OF 2--31 (ASEAN STATEMENT)

///REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM.

(TEXT) 8. ASEAN FOREIGN MINISTERS EMPHASIZED THAT THEY HAVE ALWAYS HAD RESERVATIONS ABOUT POL POT AND HAVE MADE THIS CLEAR IN THEIR STATEMENTS. THEY STATED THAT THEY WOULD CONTINUE TO RECOGNIZE THE GOVERNMENT OF DEMOCRATIC KAMPUCHEA AS THE UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY DID IN ITS RECENT 34TH SESSION. TO DO OTHERWISE WOULD BE TANTAMOUNT TO APPROVING THE ACT OF FOREIGN MILITARY INTERVENTION AND THE IMPOSITION OF A REGIME WHICH IS SUSTAINED BY FOREIGN MILITARY FORCES WHICH WILL OBSTRUCT EFFORTS TO SEEK A LASTING POLITICAL SOLUTION TO THE KAMPUCHEAN PROBLEM. IN THIS CONTEXT, ASEAN FOREIGN MINISTERS WERE ENCOURAGED BY THE FAR-SIGHTED STATEMENTS BY THE GOVERNMENTS OF AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND TO CONTINUE TO RECOGNIZE DEMOCRATIC KAMPUCHEA.

9. ASEAN FOREIGN MINISTERS STRESSED THAT THEY, IN CALLING FOR A POLITICAL SOLUTION TO THE PROBLEM IN KAMPUCHEA, WERE MOTIVATED SOLELY BY THEIR DESIRE TO INSURE THAT ALL COUNTRIES IN SOUTHEAST ASIA ENJOY PEACE AND STABILITY, BASED ON RESPECT FOR THE PRINCIPLES OF PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES, NONINTERFERENCE IN THE INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF OTHER STATES AND FREEDOM FROM SUBVERSION OR COERCION BY OUTSIDE POWERS. THEY STRESSED THAT THEIR GOAL IS TO MAKE SOUTHEAST ASIA FREE FROM EXTERNAL INTERFERENCE OR INVOLVEMENT IN THE RIVALRY OF MAJOR POWERS WITHOUT TAKING SIDES WITH ANY PARTY OR MAJOR POWER.

10. ASEAN FOREIGN MINISTERS AGREED THAT THE PROBLEM OF REFUGEES COMING OVERLAND INTO THAILAND HAS BECOME MORE SERIOUS AS A RESULT OF THE CONTINUED FIGHTING IN KAMPUCHEA. THE FOUR ASEAN FOREIGN MINISTERS AGREED WITH THE THAI GOVERNMENT'S EFFORTS TO SOLVE THIS PROBLEM IN ACCORDANCE WITH ITS OPEN-ARMS POLICY BASED ON HUMANITARIANISM. THEY FIRMLY BELIEVED THAT LAND REFUGEES SHOULD RETURN TO THEIR HOMELANDS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AND CALLED UPON INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITIES INCLUDING THE UNITED NATIONS AND ITS ORGANS TO GIVE ASSISTANCE OF ALL KINDS TO THE THAI GOVERNMENT TO SOLVE THE PROBLEM. THEY FURTHER URGED THE SETTLEMENT COUNTRIES AND OTHER COUNTRIES TO INCREASE AND SPEED UP THEIR INTAKE OF THE LAND REFUGEES.

11. ON THE PROBLEM OF THE VIETNAMESE BOAT PEOPLE, THE FOREIGN MINISTERS NOTED THAT VIETNAM IS COOPERATING IN TACKLING THE PROBLEM AT ITS SOURCE. THEY EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT VIETNAM WOULD CONTINUE TO COOPERATE TO RESOLVE THE PROBLEM. THEY EXPRESSED THANKS FOR ASSISTANCE GIVEN BY THE SETTLEMENT COUNTRIES AND FOR THE EFFORTS OF UNHCR TO SOLVE THE PROBLEM WHICH ARE INTENDED TO BRING AN IMMEDIATE END TO THE PROBLEM SO THAT ASEAN WILL NOT HAVE TO SHOULDER IT. THEY ALSO URGED THE SETTLEMENT COUNTRIES TO SPEED UP THE INTAKE OF INDOCHINESE REFUGEES AND ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS FROM ASEAN COUNTRIES.

12. ASEAN FOREIGN MINISTERS AND THE DELEGATIONS OF INDONESIA, THE PHILIPPINES, SINGAPORE AND THAILAND EXPRESSED THEIR SINCERE THANKS TO THE PEOPLE AND GOVERNMENT OF MALAYSIA FOR THE WARM HOSPITALITY AND THE EXCELLENT PREPARATIONS WHICH MADE THE MEETING PROCEED IN AN ATMOSPHERE OF TRADITIONAL FRIENDSHIP AND SOLIDARITY.

KUALA LUMPUR, 14 DECEMBER 1979.

(ENDALL)

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